

The Old Closson House
Ludlow, Kentucky

Kenton Co.

HABS No. 20-13

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KY.

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. 20

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
G. K. Grimes, District Officer
304 Martin Brown Building
Louisville, Kentucky

Name of structure: The Old Closson House

Location: Closson Court, Ludlow, Kenton County,
Kentucky

Owner or
custodian: Masonic Temple
Trustees: R. F. White and R. J. Waite

Address: Ludlow, Kentucky

Date built: 1832
(approx)

Architect
or builder: Not known.

Present
condition: Good; in need of minor repairs.

Number of
stories: One and a half story; also basement.

Material used
in construction: Foundation: Brick.
Exterior walls: Brick.
Interior partitions: Brick and frame,
plastered.
Floors: Wood, tongue and groove white
pine, six and seven-inch widths,
laid alternately.
Roof: Wood shingles; standing seam tin,
and composition shingles.

Description:
architectural
and historical This house was built about 1832 for Simon
Kenton, of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, as a
summer home, but he lived there only a
few years, disposing of the place to Mr.
Henry Jenkins, of Cincinnati, it is said.

The original plot of ground ran north to the Ohio River in terraces; the front of the house faced the river, and there were rose bushes planted along each side of the walk all the way to the river.

The plan of the house is typical of many of the early Kentucky residences, having a large central hall flanked on each side by two large rooms and entered from the hall.

When the main front of the house, which was on the river side, became the rear of the house as a result of the city street improvements, it is believed that the main stairs ~~were~~ changed so as to land near the entrance opposite the river side, thus requiring a landing mid-way between the first and second floor, making a rather unusual arrangement. To bear out this assumption, there are butt joints in the flooring near the entrance on the river side, indicating that the stairs ~~were~~ originally one straight flight, or run, from the first to the second floor. The space under the landing is enclosed by solid paneling, forming closet spaces.

The plaster cornice in the main hall and some of the first floor rooms, as well as the interior trim, although very simple in detail, is designed in the Greek Revival style and has interesting character. There are also on the ceiling of the main hall and some of the first floor rooms cast plaster ornaments.

The main entrance is carried out in Greek Revival style; is rather interesting although very simple in detail.

G. M. Grimes
Reviewed 1936, H.C.F.